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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

PORT NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

INFORMATION REPORT CD NO.

DATE DISTR.

16 August 1950

SUBJECT

Twenty-Fifth Conference of the SED

NO. OF PAGES

Executive Board on 14 and 15 March

PLACE ACQUIRED

INFO25X1X

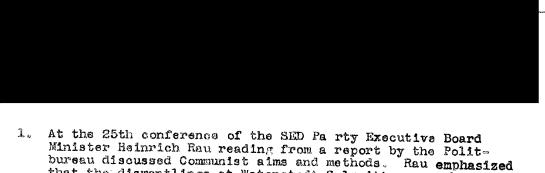
DATE OF

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- At the 25th conference of the SED Pa rty Executive Board Minister Heinrich Rau reading from a report by the Politbureau discussed Communist aims and methods. Rau emphasized that the dismantlings at Watenstedt-Salzgitter must be exploited by propaganda means for strenghening the National Front in Western Germany. It was pointed out in the report that the incidents at Watenstedt-Salzgitter were an important starting point for the activities of the National Front in the Western Zones. The mission of the Communist Party and the National Front must be establish a united front with the mass of the Social-Democratic voters, thereby bringing them to oppose their party leadership. It is to be kept in mind that this rift may be despened by emphasizing the close connections between the Social-Democratic Party leadership and the British authorities. Large-scale actions of solidarity by Soviet Zone enterprises are designed to spread the influence of the German Democratic Republic among the German people in the west. Along these lines orders for Western Zone enterprises may contribute considerably. The chief aim of the entire campaign must be to inculcate in the mind of the Western German population the conviction that the German Democratic Republic speaks for all Germany.
- 2. Rau further stated that in this respect it was of importance to concentrate propaganda efforts. It is a mistave to attack British and French as well as US occupation policies when the main attack should be directed specifically against the Americans. Rau then called attention to the action program drawn up by Max Reimann for the 15th conference of the Communist Party Executiva Board. This program was in complete agreement with the line of the National Front. However, special emphasis should be laid on the fact that the activities of the National Front in Western Germany should be centered on the peace drive.

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Next Review Date: 2008

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Rau gave this as the reason why the National Front Committees are called Peace Committees.

The underiable success of Anti-Communist propaganda was admitted by Rau. This propaganda is being pursued effectively against the Cerman Democratic Republic from Western Berlin. For this reason it is necessary to build up the SED party apparatus at an increased rate: for such a program special training courses are indispensable. Rau also stated that stricter security measures must be taken to prevent the leakage of plans made at conferences of high party functioneries. It is particularly important that the radio and press in the German Democratic Republic be used more effectively as weapons in the fight against enemy propaganda. Rau finally read a critical report, apparently originating from Soviet sources, on the training work conducted by the party. This report was directed against both Anton Ackermann, SED member, serving as secretary of state, and Stefan Heymann, also an SED member. In this report it was pointed out that the ideological vagueness regarding the question of the Oder-Neissa line and the attitude toward the U.S.S.R., which was conspicuous during the last party elections, had not yet been fully overcome. In the Einhelt magazine, the central theoretical organ of the party, one could still find ideas reminiscent of the line of German Socialism previously pursued by Anton Ackermann. Accordingly Klaus Zwelling, the editor in chief of the Einheit magazine, was severely criticized. The Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute was similarly reproached. In conclusion brief mention was made of the growth of sectarianism within the SED.

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